

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

NEA-10 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

COME-00 AGR-05 IGA-01 OIC-02 /117 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5025

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6059

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN ECOSOC: PREPARATIONS FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION --
US/G77 CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 170834

1. SUMMARY: US ACHIEVED GOAL OF AVOIDING CONFRONTATION AND DETAILED COMMENTARY ON G-77 POSITION PAPER IN INFORMAL CONSULTATION. OPEN ENVIRONMENT AND DISCREET SUPPORT FOR MODERATES MAINTAINED. RELATIONS WITH THREE ALLIES SOMEWHAT STRAINED. END SUMMARY.

2. AMB FERGUSON OPENED CONSULTATIONS WITH G-77 BY MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) USG MINDFUL OF G-77 REQUEST THAT COMMENTS BE IN WRITING AND CONCRETE COUNTER-PROPOSALS BE MADE. BUT, AFTER CAREFUL STUDY OF POSITION PAPER AND PREVIOUS PAPERS, USG HAD CONCLUDED THERE WERE STILL FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN CONCEPTION AND ANALYSIS BETWEEN USG AND G-77 AND HENCE DETAILED PARA-BY-PARA COMMENTARY WOULD NOT FURTHER THE PROCESS OF PREPARING FOR SESSION; (B) FERGUSON ASSERTED THAT USG RECOGNIZED ADD 1 AS A POLICY STATEMENT OF THE 77 AND IT WAS USEFUL IN IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEMS TO WHICH EFFORTS AT SOLUTION WOULD BE DIRECTED; (C) FERGUSON FURTHER AS-
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SERTEED THAT WHILE AT THE MOMENT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH

CONSENSUS ON PAPER, NONETHELESS USG APPRECIATED FACT THAT GROUP HAD SEPARATED AGENDA ISSUE FROM THE SUBSTANTIVE PAPER AND HAD PRODUCED A CLEAN AGENDA ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY USG IN ITS FIRST CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER; (D) FERGUSON CONCLUDED BY DRAWING GROUP'S ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT, UNLIKE MANY COUNTRIES PRESENT, POSITIONS TAKEN BY USG -- PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY WERE CHANGES FROM PRIOR POSITIONS AND PRACTICES -- REQUIRED THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT, CONGRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

3. DRAWING ON REFTEL AND SECRETARY'S SPEECHES, FERGUSON THEN SET FORTH USG INTENTIONS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON FACT THAT PROPOSALS AND INITIATIVES WOULD COME AT THE TIME OF THE 7TH SS ITSELF.

4. IN EXCHANGES AFTER PRESENTATION, JAMACIAN REP OPENED DISCUSSION BY ASKING FERGUSON TO SPECIFY "THOSE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN CONCEPTION" REFERRED TO IN OPENING PRESENTATION. FERGUSON REPLIED BY INDICATING THAT WHILE NOT EXPLICITLY SET FORTH IN G-77 PAPERS, THERE WERE THREE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS ON WHICH USG DIFFERED FROM G-77. HE SPECIFIED THE THREE CONCEPTS AS: (A) CONCEPT OF INTERVENTION IN THE MARKET WHICH THE US DID NOT VIEW AS LEGITIMATE ECONOMIC TOOL FOR OTHER THAN REDRESSING SHORT-TERM PROBLEMS AND EMERGENCIES; (B) THE CONCEPT OF "AUTOMATICITY" BY WHICH FINANCIAL RESOURCES WERE TRANSFERRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NON-MARKET FACTORS; AND, (C) THE CONCEPT OF REDISTRIBUTION OF PRESENT WEALTH RATHER THAN RE-ALLOCATING SHARES OF WEALTH AND INCOME OUT OF GROWTH. THERE FOLLOWED A RATHER LIVELY SEMINAR-TYPE DISCUSSION WHICH SEEMED TO INTRIGUE THE BRIGHTER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, AVOIDED ANY DETAILED COMMENTARY ON G-77 PAPER.

5. VENEZUELAN REP RAISED THREE QUESTIONS: (A) DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTEGRATED APPROACH AND CASE-BY-CASE; (B) US POSITION ON INDEXATION; AND, (C) NATURE OF ACTION GA COULD TAKE. FERGUSON REPLIED BY INDICATING CASE-BY-CASE APPROACH DERIVED FROM US EXPERIENCE IN PROBLEM-SOLVING AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, THE VERY WORDS CASE-BY-CASE REFERRED TO THE METHOD THE LEGAL PROFESSION HAD CREATED FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING. HE STATED US POSITION WAS TO SOLVE ONE CASE FIRST, THEN SECOND AND THIRD, AND AT THAT POINT TO SEE FROM AN EXAMINATION OF SOLUTIONS WHETHER OR NOT A GENERAL PRINCIPLE EMERGED WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL IN SOLVING CASES FOUR, FIVE AND SIX TO FOLLOW. HE CONTRASTED WHAT HE PERCEIVED TO BE G-77 POSITION

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OF ESTABLISHING A GENERAL PRINCIPLE AND THEN ATTEMPTING TO FORCE ALL SOLUTIONS TO FIT THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE. ON INDEXATION, FERGUSON SAID THAT HE BELIEVED NOBODY WANTED INDEXATION AS SUCH BUT RATHER AS A TOOL TO ACHIEVE AN OBJECTIVE. IF THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO MAINTAIN AND STABILIZE LEVELS OF EXPORT EARNINGS, THEN USG BELIEVED NOT ONLY WOULD INDEXATION NOT WORK BUT IT ALSO INTERFERED WITH RATIONAL GROWTH, WHICH TENDED TO FREEZE PRESENT PRACTICES AND WOULD MIS-DIRECT RESOURCE ALLOCATION. ON

THIRD QUESTION FERGUSON REFERRED VENEZUELAN REP TO JULY 4 SPEECH ON ROLE AND FUNCTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

6. ALGERIA RAISED TWO SUBSTANTIAL QUESTIONS: (A) WHETHER USG CONTEMPLATED SOLUTIONS OUTSIDE THE UN SYSTEM, AND (2) WHO ARE THE POOR IN THE US VIEW THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION? ON FIRST QUESTION FERGUSON AGAIN REFERRED REP TO JULY 4 SPEECH. ON THE QUESTION OF THE POOR, FERGUSON ANSWERED THAT US HAD NOT YET DEvised CRITERIA, BUT QUITE CLEARLY WHO IS POOR IS VERY COMPLEX ISSUE SINCE COUNTRIES MAY BE POOR FOR ONE PURPOSE, E.G., BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AND NOT POOR FOR OTHER PURPOSES, E.G., HUMAN RESOURCES. HE SUGGESTED THAT EVENTUALLY THERE WOULD BE A FUNCTIONAL LIST DEPENDING UPON THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE PARTICULAR COUNTRY.

7. IVORY COAST CONFINED ITS TWO INQUIRES ABOUT US POSITION ON COM-MODITY AGREEMENTS IN GENERAL AND ON COCOA, COFFEE AND SUGAR IN PARTICULAR. FERGUSON RESPONDED BY DRAWING ON INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL.

8. COMMENT. SESSION, WHICH LASTED TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS, CONDUCTED IN MANNER TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVE OF MAINTAINING OPEN NEGOTIATING ENVIRONMENT AND AVOIDING TAKING POSITIONS ON G-77 PAPER WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT NO CONSENSUS ON PAPER WAS POSSIBLE.

9. MOST REACTIONS FROM OTHER DELS WERE GENERALLY ENTHUSIASTIC WITH CONTRATULATIONS ON CANDOR AND NOT TRYING TO PULL WOOL OVER EYES OF G-77. MANY DELS DESCRIBED USG PERFORMANCE AS BRILLIANT. JAMAICA NOTED, HOWEVER, PERFORMANCE WAS MOST BRILLIANT EXAMPLE OF DEFENDING NEGATIVE POSITION.

10. AS ANTICIPATED, STRAINS ARE DEVELOPING WITH JAPANESE, CANADA, AND UK ON THE ISSUE OF A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF REMARKS. AMB FERGU-
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SON HAS INDICATED HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO CIRCULATE WRIT-
TEN DOCUMENTS AT THIS TIME. DEPARTMENT MAY HEAR FURTHER, PARTI-
CULARLY FROM JAPANESE, ON THIS ISSUE. END COMMENT.DALE

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